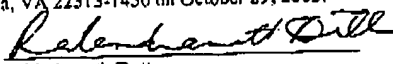


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: S. S. Lightstone et al. Examiner: Anh Ly
Serial No.: 09/627,662 Group Art Unit: 2172
Filed: July 28, 2000 Docket No.: CA990022US1
TITLE: HEURISTIC-BASED CONDITIONAL DATA INDEXING

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as facsimile addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 29, 2003.


Rabindranath Dutta

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMAL COMMUNICATION -

DO NOT ENTER INTO PROSECUTION RECORD:

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Examiner requested the Patent Agent for Applicants the other day that the Applicants fax over an informal proposed claim amendment. Included is an informally proposed amended claim 27. Claims 37 and 47 are also expected to be amended in an analogous manner.

Amdt. dated October 29, 2003
Reply to Office action of 05/22/2003

Serial No. 09/627,662
Docket No. CA990022US1
Firm No. 0055.0022

27. (Informally Amended) A method for updating an index on a database table when data is added to the table, comprising:

- receiving data records to load into the table;
- selecting one of a first operation and second operation, wherein the first operation incrementally updates the index on the table as each received data record is added to the table and the second operation rebuilds the index from the table after all the received data records have been added to the table; and
- using the selected first operation or second operation to incrementally update or rebuild the index respectively with the received data from the received data records.

Claims 37 and 47 are also to be amended in an analogous manner. The selecting may be performed by a heuristic function.

Please let me know if the above amendment to claim 27 (and similar amendments to claims 37 and 47) is likely to be allowable.

Dated: October 29, 2003

By: Rabindranath Dutta

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